

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, NL

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT FROM QUEEN JULIANA AND PRINCE BERNHARD

1. FOLLOWING CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD
RECEIVED BY COMMERCIAL CABLE: QTE: THE NETHERLANDS
PEOPLE JOIN US TODAY IN EXTENDING HEARTFELT CONGRATULA-
TIONS AS YOU AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA COMMEMORATE THE TWO HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF YOUR COUNTRY. DURING THE
SECOND WORLD WAR OUR TWO NATIONS BATTLED SIDE BY SIDE TO
MAINTAIN THE IDEALS AND VALUES MOST CHERISHED BY OUR
PEOPLES. IT IS WITH THE DEEPEST FEELINGS OF GRATITUDE THAT
WE IN THE NETHERLANDS COMMEMORATE THE IMPORTANT PART
PLAYED BY THE AMERICAN ARMED FORCES IN THE LIBERATION OF
OUR NATION, AND REMEMBER THE MANY YOUNG AMERICANS WHO
SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES IN THAT STRUGGLE. THE INVALUABLE
ASSISTANCE IN OUR EFFORTS TO RECONSTRUCT OUR POSTWAR
ECONOMY, RENDERED BY THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE FRAME-
WORK OF THE MARSHALL PLAN AS WELL AS OUR CLOSE COOPERATION
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WITHIN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, SO VITAL FOR MAINTAINING

PEACE AND SECURITY, HAVE STRENGTHENED EVEN MORE THE CLOSE
TIES WHICH ALREADY EXISTED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
THE NETHERLANDS. MAY THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN

THE TWO NATIONS, DATING BACK TO NOVEMBER 16, 1776, WHEN
FROM ST. EUSTATIUS THE AMERICAN FLAG FLYING ON A UNITED
STATES NAVAL VESSEL WAS SALUTED FOR THE FIRST TIME BY A
FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, BE PROGRESSIVELY STRENGTHENED AND
SERVE AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE PEACE OF THE WORLD
AND THE WELFARE OF MANKIND. END QTE.

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE
DELIVERED TO THE QUEEN AND PRINCE: QTE: YOUR MAJESTY,
YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS: ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE,
MRS. FORD AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MOST WELCOME MESSAGE
OF GOOD WISHES ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE. AS WE ENTER OUR
THIRD CENTURY, THE UNITED STATES REDEDICATES ITSELF IN
WORD AND DEED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY,
AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY. WE DO SO WITH ANTICIPATION AND
CONFIDENCE THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES WILL
CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD.
END QTE.

3. NO RELEASE INTENDED, BUT NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT
WISHES TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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